

St. Stephen Respect Life Committee October 27, 2015, Meeting Minutes and News

St. Stephen Respect Life Committee met at 7:30 PM in St. Stephen's Copy Room.



Attending

Mary K., Rudy B., Jeff B., Rowena H., Bernie W. and Mary S., with a spontaneous visit from Fr. Ed.

Opening

We opened our meeting praying for the closure of the Renton Cedar River Clinics and of Planned Parenthoods everywhere.

Theology of the Body Group Study

We began reading a Christopher West introduction to St. John Paul II's first major catechetical project of his pontificate known as the "Theology of the Body." It is a collection of 129 audience addresses delivered from 1979 to 1984. This revolutionary catechesis is his integrated vision of the human person. See <http://www.sjcursillo.org/theology%20of%20the%20body.pdf> for a downloadable version of the work.

Our Funds

Our Respect Life Committee account has grown due to several unrequested Coffee and Donuts over the past year. Our current balance is nearly \$2,900.00.

First Friday Movie Night and Adoration

On Friday, October 2nd, seven of us enjoyed pizza and potluck side dishes and dessert before watching segments of a DVD about Our Lady of America (www.ourladyofamerica.org/explanation.php <http://ourladyofamerica.org/>).

With several being unable to attend on November 6th, and not having a movie in mind, there will be **NO November movie and pizza night**.

NOTE: Please come to **Adoration** with the Knights from **6-7pm** or with Pro-Life groups from **9-10pm**.

Truth and Prayer at Kent Planned Parenthood



First Saturday Truth and Prayer continues **9 – 11am** at the **Kent Planned Parenthood**.

Six stood in prayerful witness on October 3rd, the day before Life Chain Sunday at the same site.

October 10th, Defund Planned Parenthood Day #2, sponsored by prolifeaction.org, created Equal.org, www.proLifeSociety.com, 40daysForLife.com, and more, drew **32** people outdoors into the pouring rain.

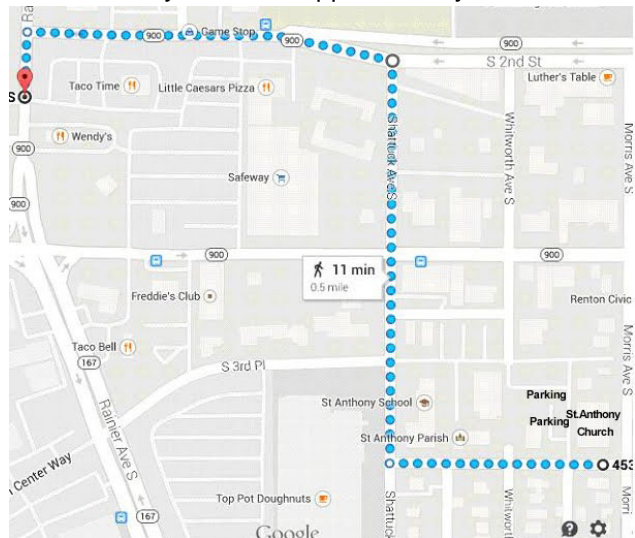
The flyer for monthly First Saturday Truth and Prayer witnessing may be downloaded from <http://ststephensrespectlife.blogspot.com/>.

Area churches and individuals are invited to participate at this very visibility site. All are welcome!

Monthly First Wednesday Processions

St. Anthony pastor, Fr. Jack Schrum, encourages **First Wednesday processions following 7:50am Mass at St. Anthony church**, on S. 4th Street, to Cedar River Clinics abortion facility on Rainier Avenue South.

We assemble after Mass (approximately 8:30am) near the main doors to the church and follow the 0.45 mile route shown below, to Shattuck, to S. 2nd St., to Rainier Ave. S. After an hour of prayer we return in procession to St. Anthony church at approximately 10am.



See more details by scrolling down to the **First Wednesday Processions** heading at <https://sites.google.com/site/respectlifecommittee/>

January 19th, 2016 March for Life Olympia

We are sending ACCW Central Deanery \$200 to help support the buses (costing approximately \$1,000 each) to the **2016 Mass and March for Life in Olympia**.

2015 was the first opportunity our bus passengers had to visit their legislators while in Olympia during a March for Life. We worked with SSTM Legislative Advocacy members to arrange appointments for passengers to meet with their legislators. Vocare's president, John Geis, graciously worked with SSTM Legislative Advocacy to provide essential direction, including a set of printed pro-life "Talking Points" to guide the constituents during the meetings. The meetings proved to be highlights of the day for all. Requests for

expanded meeting opportunities for the 2016 event came to us immediately afterward.

Because we rely on SSTM Legislative Advocacy to help arrange 2016 meetings and to provide "Talking Points," **our attendance at the November 9th SSTM Legislative Advocacy meeting is essential.** We must not delay our detailed request for their support.

SSTM Legislative Advocacy meets the 2nd Monday of every month. Everyone is welcome.

Coffee and Donuts

Our October 4th Coffee and Donuts netted \$185.05.

Next Coffee and Donuts dates for us are **January 10th** (before January 19th March for Life) and **February 7th**, Sunday preceding Ash Wednesday, the start of our Lenten concentrated on-site 40 days of prayer.

Father Ed suggested we **surround the Social Hall with pro-life messages at our next opportunity.**

Coffee and Donuts have not yet been assigned beyond June 2016. We have requested our usual first Sunday of October, Respect Life Month.

OLG Celebration Saturday, December 12th

As in recent years, we will pray a pro-life Rosary while honoring our patroness by forming bouquets with roses and pictures of babies in vases placed before the Lady of Guadalupe picture. We will provide refreshments in the narthex afterward.

Proposed Permanent Display Case

We envision a secure case that will provide as much visibility to the contents as possible. It will resemble a trophy case with dimensions of 60" x 60" x 15". The front will be plexiglass. It will likely be wall-mounted at 15" above the floor, have LED-lit interior and clear acrylic brochure racks mounted on its sides. Once constructed and placed, the case may be shared with other Social Action groups on a rotating schedule throughout the year.


It is unlikely the case design and its placement will be approved until after a new narthex committee has been formed in 2016. Well-defined specifications and illustrations must be prepared before we may proceed.

Expanding our Horizons

Father Ed suggests we join with area parish pro-life groups from Holy Spirit, St. Anthony, St. John Covington, and St. Paul, to support one another according to a modified version of Monsignor Reilly's plan that includes a monthly or quarterly Saturday event having these components in this sequence:

- Mass for Life;
- Brunch;
- Fellowship with opportunity for all to brainstorm. St. Stephen, St. Anthony, St. John, St. Paul, and Holy Spirit might rotate hosting such events and inviting all.

Miscellaneous

- Thank you to Father Ed for dropping in!
-  (Big) THANK YOU to **Renton's** long-time **Life Chain** coordinator, Sarah, for giving plenty of Life Chain signs to Kent's new Life Chain coordinator, Bernie. Some **50 attended Life Chain Sunday in Renton and 65 in Kent**, where everyone held at least one truth-proclaiming sign.
- "Young One" and "Precious One" **12-week fetal models** with development descriptions were offered to all from our narthex table displaying 2nd trimester baby models during the October 24-25 weekend. We will order more next time HH76 has them on sale. Our target recipients are everyone who will accept them.
- We will meet with Father Ed and Debbie B. to learn how we might support the SSTM Youth in their study of Theology of the Body and other pro-life studies.
- Thank you to Jane Gootherts for scheduling **Rosary leaders before each weekend Mass in October!**
- See www.PlannedProfithood.org and scroll down to enter your info, click SEARCH, and learn amounts and dates of **contributions your legislators have accepted from Planned Parenthood.**
- Father Ed suggests we distribute blessed rosaries with "How to Pray the Rosary" guides to all of the Renton Cedar River Clinics clients we can. Rudy suggested adding pregnancy resource cards to the packets.
- We will email a selection of proposed **pro-life tee shirt** Jeff is designing to all meeting attendees. Discussion will continue at our November meeting, where we may make a choice and place an order.
- **Who is willing and able to update and maintain <https://www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife?>**
- Keep your eyes on our **SSTM pro-life sites...**
<http://ststephensrespectlife.blogspot.com/>
<http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life>
<https://www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife>
<https://sites.google.com/site/respectlifecommittee>
- Thank you to Bernie for bringing sweet snacks. ☺

Closing

We closed our meeting with St. John Paul II's Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of Life prayer.



Next meeting 7:15 (after 6:30 PM Mass), Tuesday, November 24th, in the Copy Room

